# FRIENDS OF GUÉOUL ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019 EDUCATING GIRLS, LIFTING FAMILIES, BENEFITING A COMMUNITY, BETTERING OUR WORLD

# SINCE 2005, FRIENDS OF GUÉOUL HAS MADE GIRLS' EDUCATION ITS PRIORITY.



Initiated by a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV), Judy Beggs, and her friend, Co-founder John Montaña, Friends of Guéoul, Inc. has evolved from a simple scholarship program into an array of supplemental education programs that provide resources for students, teachers, and the community of Guéoul as a whole.

The list of social benefits that stem from girls' education is seemingly inexhaustible. Research shows that girls' education is the key to a nation's economic success. Educated girls are healthier, less likely to marry early, less likely to start a family too young, and less susceptible to abuse and human trafficking. Every year a girl spends in school pays dividends for a lifetime, not just to herself but to her family and community.

Our programs capture the hearts of contributors because we personally know and track each girl's progress. Our devoted local board member, Baye Thierno Ndiaye, frequently visits students and their families to ensure student success. Directors travel to Senegal every year to visit students in their



homes and to consult with local school leadership. Many board members have even traveled to Guéoul to participate in programming. All along the way our organization works to stay in tune with the lives of students. Our deep involvement in the community gives our organization real credibility and capability.

Finally, our staff has significant local experience and wisdom. The Founder and Executive Director, Judy Beggs, served for two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guéoul from 1990-92. She speaks Wolof and was named an Honorary Citizen of Guéoul. Our new Associate Director, Cameron Skinner, is building on her legacy. He is an RPCV (Rwanda, 2011-13) with an M.A. in International Education & Development from New York University. He also has an extensive professional and family network in Senegal and The Gambia.

## Now in our 14th year, we see opportunities ahead and invite you to be part of our story!

## **VISION 2024**

We imagine a Guéoul, Senegal (population ~ 11,000) where young women benefit from world-class educational opportunities.

# How will we continue to empower our boursières?

- **More years in school.** Through our local Board of Supervisors, we award annual scholarships to the most marginalized girls starting in the first grade. Working closely with Guéoul's school district, we support students through high school and beyond.
- **Better years in school.** We offer supplementary education programs that support students in many subjects including Math, French, English as a Second Language (ESL), summer school, supervised after-school clubs, teacher training, computer literacy, and e-learning.

### What have we achieved?

- 143 girls supported today (183 total) for their full academic careers, including one entering her second year of college and another entering midwifery school
- 10 percentage point increase of boursières earning a passing grade over the past five years
- 1-point increase, out of 20 maximum, in our boursières' mean national objective score, or moyen, since 2012

Vision 2024 will expand core programs, will build a world-class teaching and leadership team, and will develop a state-of-the-art Learning Center that will be open to all of Guéoul's students.

## We are focused on four areas of impact:

### 1. Leadership.

Our Co-founder and Executive Director Judy Beggs is retiring and our programs and facilities in Senegal are expanding. We are identifying, training, and retaining top-quality leadership in the U.S. and Guéoul to lead us into the future.

## 2. Expanded computer classroom and programs.

Based on our successful pilot computer classroom from 2010 to 2019, the town has donated a large and beautiful wing of the local clinic, which is currently used as a maternity ward, for the purposes of a Learning Center that would quintuple our current classroom capacity. We plan to renovate the space by the end of 2022 and offer more courses to all students in Guéoul.

### 3. Scholarships.

We will maintain our scholarship support for all girls currently in the program and expand our annual cohort of new first-grade boursières from 12 to 14 starting in Fall 2019.

### 4. Organizational Structure & Local Incorporation.

We are working with a legal team in Senegal's capital, Dakar, to develop the ideal organizational structure for a local entity that will open up new grant opportunities through USAID and other development organizations.

# OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

FRIENDS OF GUÉOUL

n FY 2019, Friends of Guéoul, Inc. (FoG) sustained scholarships for 143 girls and young women, two of whom now attend university. The organization also continued support for the after-school program (Noos Club), summer school, the YES club (ESL program), and the computer classroom.

In addition, FoG administered a few more fun programs during summer school – a foot race, an ESL training-of-trainers, and a journalism project that resulted in a pilot student newspaper (gueoulnews.com). Finally, FoG added another school at the far edge of town to its group of beneficiaries. FoG now sponsors two additional students from this school, bringing the total to 14 new boursières admitted each year.

Meanwhile, back in Denver, two Board Members ended three-year terms. Our beloved Treasurer, **Diane Wilson,** ended her "three-year term" after 7 years. Her replacement, **Kathleen Skiba,** is now learning the complexities of our financial world. Kathleen joins other new Board members – **Hal Beresford, Amanda McCracken** and **Janet Dickson. Zoe Traphagan,** former Board President, on the other hand, completed her immeasurable service to FoG in December 2018. We wish her well as she looks ahead to her family's move to Arkansas.

Another big development at FoG is the addition of **Jude Biggs**, a career lawyer and retired Partner from Holland & Hart LLP. She joins our newly formed Development Committee as a Senior Advisor, tasked with engaging benefactors for the dramatic plans FoG has envisioned for the next five years. Vision 2024 is impressive and Jude has played a critical part in its development and progress.

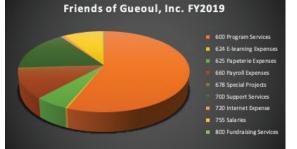
**Cameron Skinner,** FoG's newly appointed Associate Director, is leading Vision 2024. Cam is a veteran educator and a newly minted M.A. He studied International Education & Development at New York University, where he was a Paul D. Coverdell Fellow and Global Scholar. To FoG, he brings experience in program development, project implementation, classroom teaching, intensive research, and social enterprise.

In March 2019, Cam and Judy left for Guéoul to meet with FoG's Board of Supervisors and government officials. Their primary objective was developing the idea for a new Learning Center, an idea that stemmed from numerous conversations with the local Board of Supervisors. Over the course of their month in Senegal, Judy and Cam also visited over 24 boursiéres and their families, oversaw the initial stages of renovating the new computer classroom, and met with a wide array of local and national leadership.

They are pleased to report that local enthusiasm for the Learning Center led to a dramatic expansion of FoG's infrastructure. Not only has FoG's Managing Supervisor already completed renovations for the new computer classroom, FoG is also coordinating with a legal team in Dakar to secure an agreement for a new building that was donated by the town of Guéoul. As mentioned previously, the donated building immediately quintuples the organization's classroom capacity.

Finally, stateside support was strong in FY 2019. Generous partners and donors contributed a total of \$151,216.42 to FoG's efforts. Of the total contributed amount, FoG allocated \$66,001.52 to Program Services, the organization's primary expense. FoG's second and third largest areas of expenditure were Support Services and Payroll Expenses, totaling \$19,097.28 and \$13,447.98 respectively.

While FY 2019 built on an already impressive history of benefactor support and social impact, FoG is now taking a bold step forward and needs partners like you more than ever. Your commitment and compassion are what will make Vision 2024 possible.



| Statement of Activity 18/19     |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Income                          |              |
| Direct Public Grants            | \$11,500.00  |
| Direct Public Support           | \$121,892.71 |
| Investments                     | \$822.11     |
| Informatique Income             | \$2,879.00   |
| E-learning Fee Income           | \$1,256.00   |
| Papeterie (Office Supplies) Inc | \$7,602.00   |
| Special Events Income           | \$5,264.60   |
| Total Revenue                   | \$151,216.42 |
| Expense                         |              |
| Program Services                | \$66,001.52  |
| E-learning Expenses             | \$386.00     |
| Papeterie Expenses              | \$6,488.69   |
| Payroll Expenses                | \$13,447.98  |
| Special Projects                | \$980.24     |
| Support Services                | \$19,097.28  |
| Internet Expense                | \$1,045.00   |
| Salaries                        | \$10,202.34  |
| Fundraising Services            | \$235.72     |
| Total Expenditures              | \$117,884.77 |
| Net Revenue                     | \$33,331.65  |
|                                 |              |

## FRIENDS INCLUDE:



Judy Beggs | Founder, Executive Director John Montaña | Founder, co-President Cameron Skinner | Associate Director

Please feel free to reach out to Associate Director Cameron Skinner at cameron@gueoul.org.

Friends of Guéoul 3120 S. Race Street | Englewood, CO 80113 | gueoul.org

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Eldijana Bjelcic** Board President, 2018-21

Marny Eulberg, M.D. Board Secretary

Kathleen Skiba Board Treasurer, 2019-22

Hal Beresford Marketing Advisor

ADVISORS Jude Biggs

Sr. Advisor, Development Committee
SUPPORT STAFF

Andrea Engelman Events Manager

#### Sandy Battin Judy Beggs Janet Dickson Julya MacLean Amanda McCracken

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Makhfou Diop Program Manager

**Baye Thierno Ndiaye** *Program Coordinator* 

Hamet Sarr Finance Manager

